

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: 05/29/2012
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 1202
AUTHOR: Leno, Mark

BILL SUMMARY: Dental hygienists.

This bill would make various changes to the licensure and regulation of registered dental hygienists (RDHs) within California.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The Dental Hygiene Committee (Committee) estimates that this bill would result in additional costs of \$73,000 annually in order to hire one Staff Services Analyst to review background applications and new dental hygienist programs. The Committee estimates that this bill could result in a one-time cost of \$128,000 in order to update its BreZE licensing software in 2013-14.

The Committee estimates that this bill would result in additional revenues of \$133,000 related to new fees. Additionally, the committee estimates that this bill could result in additional revenues of \$1.7 million annually if the fees were increased to the new fee caps that are authorized by this bill.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is neutral on this bill. This bill would make various changes to the license and regulation of RDHs, which would increase the availability of qualified RDH teachers, allow mobile dental hygiene clinics, increase various license fees, provide the Committee with greater flexibility in regulating RDHs, and require additional continuing education credits in order to renew a license.

Current law:

- Provides for the licensure and regulation of RDHs by the Committee and authorizes the Committee to charge various fees for licenses.
- Requires the Committee to approve any dental hygiene educational program that has been accredited and is in good standing with the Commission on Dental Accreditation.
- Requires the Committee to grant an RDH license to anyone meeting specified requirements.
- Authorizes the Committee to grant a RDH license to an applicant who has not taken the clinical exam, provided that the applicant meets certain criteria, including, that the applicant has been in a clinical practice as a registered dental hygienist or has been a full-time faculty member of a dental hygiene program for at least five years preceding the date of the application.
- Prohibits the Committee from imposing any additional limitations or requirements on any applicant who fails to successfully complete an examination.
- Requires the Committee to grant RDHs in alternative practice a license who meet certain criteria. Alternative practice applies to RDHs that work outside the traditional dental carrier delivery system. This includes practice in residential care facilities, schools, rural areas, and institutions.

Analyst/Principal (0222) J.Carosone	Date	Program Budget Manager Lisa Ann Mangat	Date
Department Deputy Director		Date	
Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____ Position Disapproved _____
BILL ANALYSIS			Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

AUTHOR

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SB 1202

COMMENTS (continued)

- Requires the Committee to seek an injunction against a RDH in alternative practice who violates a requirement to obtain a prescription prior to rendering services, as specified.
- Requires 7.5 hours of continuing education per license renewal period.

This bill would:

- Remove the requirement that the Committee approve all dental hygiene educational programs and authorizes the Committee to approve those programs that have been accredited. Additionally this bill authorizes the Committee to revoke authorization to programs which the Commission on Dental Accreditation intends to withdraw or has withdrawn accreditation.
- Increase the educational requirements to be licensed as an RDH to include Committee approved instruction on gingival soft tissue curettage, nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia, and local anesthesia.
- Authorize the Committee to issue special permits to RDHs licensed in another state which would authorize him or her to teach in a dental hygiene program without being licensed by the Committee.
- Require RDH applicants who have not taken the clinical exam to have five years of clinical practice as a registered dental hygienist or has been a full-time faculty member immediately preceding the date of the application.
- Authorize the Committee to prohibit an applicant, who either fails to pass the clinical examination after three attempts or imposes gross trauma on a patient, from retaking the clinical examination until that applicant has successfully completed specified remedial education.
- Require RDHs in alternative practices to register with the Committee his or her place or places of practice and authorize alternative practices to operate a mobile dental hygiene clinic. This bill also authorizes the committee to charge a fee, not to exceed \$250, to operate a mobile dental clinic.
- Allow, rather than require, the Committee to seek an injunction against a RDH in alternative practice who violates a requirement to obtain a prescription prior to rendering services, as specified.
- Increase the continuing education requirement to 10 hours per license renewal period.
- Increase the maximum fee amounts for fees charged by the Committee.

Code/Department	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)				
Agency or Revenue	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)				
Type	CO	PROP				Fund
	RV	98	FC	2012-2013 FC	2013-2014 FC	2014-2015 Code
1110/ConAfr-ReqBd	SO	No	B	-- C	209 A	73 3140
1200/Reg Tax&Licn	RV	No		----- See Fiscal Summary -----		3140
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>					
3140	Dental Hygiene Fund, State					